

MINUTES
STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES
JANUARY 15, 1999

The regular meeting of the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges was held on Friday, January 15, 1999, at 9:00 a.m. in room 507 of the Education and Research Center in Jackson, Mississippi.

Members present: Sara Fox, Joanna Heidel, Billy Hewes, Henry Hudspeth, John Junkin, Patricia Puckett, William Seal, Hazel Terry, and George Walker.

Member absent: Yvonne Brown.

Staff in attendance: Dr. Olon Ray, Executive Director, Dr. Randall Bradberry, Becky Cade, Dr. Larry Day, Ethel Ewing, Deborah Gilbert, Sandra Lucas, Eloise Richardson, Dr. Wayne Stonecypher, and Dr. Evelyn Webb.

Guests in attendance: Pete Walley, IHL; Steve Brown, BellSouth; Dexter Holloway, State Department of Education; Mr. Paul Breazeale, guest; Mr. John Taylor, Louisiana Department of Labor; and Andy Kanengiser, the Clarion Ledger.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman George Walker at 9:05 a.m.

PRELIMINARIES

The invocation was given by Patricia Puckett.

Approval of Minutes of December 17 and 18, 1998, Board Meetings

On a motion by Henry Hudspeth and a second by Sara Fox, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the December 17 and 18, 1998, meetings.

Review of Agenda

On a motion by William Seal, and a second by Billy Hewes, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dr. Ray shared with the Board a thank you card from the family of Billy Hewes for the flowers sent on the occasion of his mother's death. Dr. Ray also announced that Jimmy Heidel's mother had passed away and the funeral will be held on January 15, 1999, at 11:00 a.m.

Dr. Ray gave a brief report on a meeting of the Mississippi.Future.Net (M.F.N.) Work Group. The next meeting of the Work Group is scheduled for January 25, 1999. The Work Group is developing policy recommendations on issues related to Mississippi's technology needs.

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Dr. Ray also reported on the Mississippi Prepaid Affordable College Tuition Plan (MPACT). Currently there are approximately 10,000 members in the program.

Dr. Ray reminded the Board of the upcoming Creating Futures Through Technology Conference set for February 9, and 10, 1999. The 3rd Annual Conference is designed to provide technology training for higher education faculty and personnel. This year's conference will focus on On-Line Instruction. Anyone interested is invited to attend.

Dr. Ray reported that SBCJC staff, led by Dr. Evelyn Webb's division, is continuing to further develop the Virtual Community College in conjunction with the Electronic Advisory Council. Also, it was reported that Meridian Community College was awarded a grant in response to an RFP issued by the SBCJC to develop a teaching/learning model utilizing technology. Meridian has developed software establishing a standardized format for using the Internet for instruction that may be utilized by instructors throughout the community and junior college system.

Dr. Ray also reported that negotiations concerning a proposal from Kaplan Education Centers had been finalized. Mr. Andrew Robinson, Mississippi manager for Kaplan Education Centers, will meet with the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges to invite each president to have their college participate in a CPA Preparation Course via the Internet. Kaplan would partner with the colleges to offer the course through distance learning methods and the colleges would receive 20% profit sharing of the cost of tuition (approximately \$900 per course) for their participation in the project.

REPORTS/ACTION

MACJC Report

Dr. Ted Alexander reported via the CCN on the following items discussed at the November 24, 1998, meeting of the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges.

The Association voted unanimously to participate and support the 6th annual Mississippi Community College Fellowship Program.

Dr. Ted Alexander distributed a copy of a brief pertaining to a Federal Law on Energy Conservation that was passed in July of 1998. The Association requested that Dr. Olon Ray contact the Attorney General to determine if the community and junior colleges will be required to adhere to the legislation.

The Association reviewed the progress of the Oral History of Community and Junior Colleges Project.

Mrs. Deborah Gilbert presented highlights of the LBO recommendations for the SBCJC Support and Administration budgets.

Dr. Ray shared with the presidents draft legislation by the Special Economic Development Taskforce with regard to the consolidation of workforce efforts for the State of Mississippi. Mr. Pete Walley, with IHL, distributed a copy of a document detailing all

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workforce funds identified in the Workforce Investment Act of 1998. Mr. Walley also announced that the Governor had called a Workforce Summit on December 15, 1998.

Dr. Clyde Muse reported that the Regional Legislative Meetings across the state were very effective and very well attended.

Dr. Eddie Smith reported on the Phi Theta Kappa All-State Academic Team Recognition Program scheduled for March 24, 1999.

Dr. Starkey Morgan reported on a meeting of the MACJC Funding/Formula Implications Committee and distributed a sample worksheet detailing possible appropriations funding based upon credit hours based on FY 1997 postsecondary state salary funding.

Dr. Clyde Muse reported on the MACJC's Legislative Committee efforts to identify the role the colleges will play in the Workforce Investment Act of 1998.

Dr. Tommy Davis reported on a proposed dues increase for membership in the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

Dr. Ray asked that Dr. Alexander update the Board on the actions of the MACJC with regard to proposed workforce consolidation legislation. Dr. Alexander reported that at the MACJC called a meeting and voted to endorse the concept of the consolidating workforce training education under the SBCJC.

On behalf of the MACJC, Dr. Alexander expressed sympathy to Board members, Billy Hewes, and Joanna Heidel at the passing of family members.

EdNet Report

Dr. Evelyn Webb reported that the FCC signed licensing documents had been delivered to Michael Gallagher, Project Director for Mississippi EdNet, on January 12, 1999. Along with the documents a letter was included indicating that Wireless One would be expected to resolve the problems associated with any community and/or junior college site. Mr. Gallagher spoke with Wireless One Executive, Walt Eilers during a meeting with Dr. Webb, and Mr. Eilers assured them that Wireless One would address their concerns and work to resolve any problems. Dr. Webb also reported that Wireless One installation crews are now working in the Gulf Coast cell and within a five day period, installations were completed at 43 local schools. As of this date there have been 35 Mississippi schools that have refused installation. John Junkin asked that the Board be mailed a listing of the schools refusing installation.

Dr. Webb reported that Hinds Community College and Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College have submitted proposals to EdNet to become local origination sites for programming. Sites will probably be selected by the February 16, 1999, EdNet Board meeting.

Finance Report

Upon a motion by Sara Fox, and a second by John Junkin, the Board voted unanimously to

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approve the February and March 1999, disbursements from General Fund 2298 in the respective amounts of \$7,354,815 each (Exhibit A).

Upon a motion by Sara Fox, and a second by William Seal, the Board voted unanimously to approve the January 31, 1999, Education Enhancement Fund Disbursement from Funds 4080, 4110, and 4301 in the total amount of \$7,774,636.16 (Exhibit B).

Mrs. Fox also presented the following reports for the Board members' review:

FY 1999 Appropriation with Fall 1998 Enrollment (Exhibit C)
Financial Statements for Funds 2291, 3291, and 4300 (Exhibit D).

Each Board member was provided a summary spreadsheet of their per diem and travel for Calendar Year 1998 for 1099 purposes at the Thursday evening meeting.

Workforce Consolidation

Chairman George Walker discussed with the Board legislation proposed by Senator Terry Burton to establish one comprehensive workforce training system in the State of Mississippi that is focused on achieving results, using resources efficiently, ensuring that workers and employees can easily access needed training services. The legislation proposes that the following training programs and funds should be transferred to the SBCJC on July 1, 2000:

- A. Postsecondary vocational technical funds and programs presently administered by the State Department of Education.
- B. Postsecondary Carl Perkins programs and funds presently administered by the State Department of Education.
- C. Postsecondary Tech Prep programs and funds presently administered by the State Department of Education.
- D. Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) workforce training programs and funds presently administered by the Department of Human Services and sub-contracted to the State Department of Education.
- E. Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) programs and funds presently administered by the Mississippi Department of Economic and Community Development and **sub-contracted to the Mississippi Employment Security Commission***.
- F. State Occupational Informational and Coordinating Committee programs presently administered by the Mississippi Department of Economic and Community Development.
- G. **And any other comprehensive employment and training act of 1973 federally funded support programs and funds presently administered by the Mississippi Department of Economic and Community Development.***

*(The bolded portions of the legislation have been removed from the proposed bill since this report was given.)

Dr. Ray discussed with the Board implications of the legislation that include moving adult training and industrial services training funds from the State Department of Education to the SBCJC on

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July 1, 1999. The balance of training funds, JTPA, vocational and technical postsecondary programs, and TANF funds used for training, would be transferred to the SBCJC on July 1, 2000.

Mr. Walker complimented Mr. Pete Walley on a report he prepared for Senator Dick Hall with regard to the need for additional trained construction trade skilled workers. The report recommends, among other things, that funds be allocated and earmarked in the amount of \$2,180,000 for construction training faculty additions to the fifteen community and junior college staffs and that funds be allocated and earmarked in the amount of \$1,500,000 for the continuation/expansion of the Wheels of Learning Project that is directed by the Office of Vocational Technical Education within the State Department of Education.

Mr. Walker reported that the Mississippi Quality Awards Program Winners will be announced during the annual conference scheduled for April 8 and 9, 1999, at the Beau Rivage Hotel, in Biloxi, Mississippi.

Mr. Walker reported on legislation introduced requesting \$7,500,000 in funds for the establishment of Advanced Technology Centers.

Mr. Walker updated the Board on the School-to-Careers Grant awarded to the state. The grant will be administered by members of the State Department of Education in cooperation with the State Workforce Development Council.

Mr. Walker distributed a copy of the Workforce Investment Act Advisors' work meeting held on January 13, 1999 (Exhibit E). The purpose of the meeting was to try to discuss various recommendations to make to the Governor as he begins required planning for the state's involvement in the federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998.

Mr. Walker gave a report on the Workforce Investment Act Summit convened by Governor Fordice, on December 15, 1998.

Mr. Walker reported on a meeting that he attended at Mississippi State University pertaining to the proposed MidSouth Partnership for Rural Community Colleges. MSU has developed a list of courses that have been submitted to the Institutions for Higher Learning for funding through the Center.

GED Report

Eloise Richardson reported on the Adult Education Act, which has been placed as Title II under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998. Currently SBCJC staff are working to write a new state plan as required by the legislation. Mrs. Richardson outlined changes that will be included in the new plan that will be presented to the Board at the February meeting to begin the administrative procedures process.

Legislative Report

Mr. George Walker introduced Mr. John Taylor, a representative of the Louisiana Department of Labor. Mr. Taylor is visiting with Mississippi community and junior colleges programs to examine workforce training programs.

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Dr. Wayne Stonecypher discussed pending legislation that would affect the SBCJC and community colleges. He also gave an overview of the deadlines for action on proposed legislation.

Joanna Heidel requested that the Board members be made aware of specific legislative bill numbers before the MACJC Legislative Luncheon in order to offer support during discussion with legislators.

Hazel Terry reported on an upcoming meeting of educational leaders and secondary school leaders in Kemper County to hold discussions on ways to raise Level I schools to a higher level.

Travel Authorizations

Chairman Walker asked for requests to authorize travel reimbursements for events other than regularly scheduled Board meetings. On a motion by John Junkin, seconded by Joanna Heidel, the Board voted unanimously to approve a request for reimbursement of travel expenses as follows:

George Walker, Joanna Heidel, John Junkin, Hazel Terry, Henry Hudspeth, Billy Hewes, and William Seal to attend the MACJC Legislative Luncheon on February 4, 1999.

Joanna Heidel and John Junkin to attend the EdTech Luncheon on January 27, 1999.

George Walker attended a Mississippi Economic Council meeting on January 7, 1999, and the State Workforce Development Council meeting on January 13, 1999.

Other Business

Dr. Olon Ray announced that the SBCJC office would be closed on Monday, January 18, 1999, in observance of the state holiday honoring Martin Luther King, Jr.'s./Robert E. Lee's birthday.

In response to a request from Dr. Ted Alexander regarding the update of the history of community and junior colleges, John Junkin suggested that Bill Bunch, former SBCJC Associate Executive Director for Program be contacted to possibly serve as a contact to update the Board's portion of the history.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by John Junkin and a second by Joanna Heidel, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 11:45 a.m.


George Walker, Chairman


Olon E. Ray
Executive Director